GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1530
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
PRODUCTION OF SPICES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of various spices in the country is not as per the requirement at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to enhance the production of spices in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The production of majority of spices in the country is sufficient to meet the domestic requirement. However, the production of minor spices like cassia, clove, star anise, aniseed, poppy seed is relatively less to meet the domestic demand due to the limited availability of specific agro-climatic conditions required for profitable cultivation of these crops. The country depends on import of these minor spices to meet their requirement. A statement showing the details of area, production, export & import of spices in India for the last 10 years is annexed as Annexure -I.

(c): For enhancing horticulture production including spices, two Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely National Horticulture Mission and Horticulture Technology Mission for North Eastern and Himalayan States, are being implemented in the country. The schemes aimed at increasing production and productivity of quality spices in the country to meet the growing demand in the domestic as well as export market. The assistance is provided to farmers for production and distribution by high yielding and export oriented varieties of spices to different agro climatic conditions for their wide coverage in the area expansion programme, integrated pest management, organic farming, transfer of technology programmes, training programmes etc.